



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Darren Rogers
Senior Director, Communications & Media Services
Churchill Downs Racetrack
(502) 636-4461 (office)
(502) 345-1030 (mobile)
Darren.Rogers@KyDerby.com

HEAVY FAVORITE MAGIC DANCE WINS TO GIVE ASMUSSEN FIFTH DEBUTANTE

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (Saturday, June 29, 2019) – Heavily-favored **Magic Dance** collared California invader **Cholula Lips** with a furlong to run and won Saturday's 119th running of the \$125,000 Debutante (Listed) for 2-year-old fillies at Churchill Downs by 1 ½ lengths on closing day of the 38-day Spring Meet.

Off at odds of 1-5 in the field of eight, Magic Dance clocked six furlongs over a fast track in 1:10.26. **Ricardo Santana Jr.** rode the winner for Hall of Fame trainer **Steve Asmussen** and **Goncalo Torrealba's Three Chimneys Farm LLC**.

The triumph was Asmussen's fifth in the Debutante. Previously he won with **Cashier's Dream** (2001), **Effectual** (2005), **Richwoman** (2006) and **Rated Fiasty** (2007). Three Chimneys Farm was a co-owner of last year's Debutante winner **Restless Rider**.

Breaking from post No. 6, Magic Dance tracked three-wide from third as **My Good Girl** and **Cholula Lips** ran a quick first quarter mile in :21.51. **Cholula Lips** took the lead on the turn and opened up a 1 ½-length advantage from Magic Dance at the head of the stretch, but Magic Dance wore down her rival down the lane and cleared the field in the final stages.

The victory was worth \$75,175 which increased the 2-year-old filly's earnings to \$114,175 with a perfect record in two starts. Prior to her Debutante triumph, Magic Dance broke her maiden at Churchill Downs on June 7 by 4 ¾ lengths at odds of 8-1.

Magic Dance paid \$2.60, \$2.40 and \$2.10. Her Debutante win payoff equaled the race's low \$2 win mutuel shared by **Flyweight** (1944), **Silverbulletday** (1998) and **Chilukki** (1999). **Cholula Lips**, at odds of 6-1 under **Rafael Bejarano**, returned \$3.80 and \$3.60. **Lady Glamour**, at 33-1 with **James Graham** up, was 2 ¼ lengths back of the runner-up and paid \$8.

Indy Takes Charge, **Secretly Wicked**, **My Good Girl**, **Megan Marie** and **Lady George** completed the order of finish. **Street Flyer** was scratched.

Magic Dance is a 2-year-old daughter of **More Than Ready** out of the Distorted Humor mare **Magical World**. She was bred in Kentucky by her owners.

The Debutante, first staged in 1895 and one of Churchill Downs' most storied races, was one the second of three stakes races on Saturday's closing day card at Churchill Downs.

Earlier on the card in the 10th running of the \$120,600 Kelly's Landing Overnight Stakes, recent \$62,500 claim **Line Judge** returned immediate dividends to owner **Tom Kagele** and trainer **Peter Miller** with a 3 ¼-length romp over **Transatlantic Kiss**. The 5-year-old son of **Spring At Last** ran seven furlongs in a stakes record 1:21.35 under leading rider **Corey Lanerie**. **Line Judge** banked \$72,827 for the win and improved his record to 25-12-4-1—\$479,238. He paid \$26 to win at odds of 12-1. Favored **Uncontested** finished fourth.

DEBUTANTE QUOTES

Ricardo Santana Jr., jockey of MAGIC DANCE (winner): "She got herself into a perfect position early on in the race. She was ready to run today and fought back against (Cholula Lips) on our inside. That was a very nice performance."

Steve Asmussen, trainer of MAGIC DANCE (winner): "This is a very special win for us for Three Chimneys Farm and this horse was broke at my parent's ranch in Laredo, Texas. She proved today that the three-quarter distance was no problem."

Mike Harrington, trainer of CHOLULA LIPS (runner-up): "We just got outrun by a nice filly this afternoon. She ran a great race to run second to that horse and made the trip to Kentucky worth it."

Rafael Bejarano, jockey of CHOLULA LIPS (runner-up): "I thought we were going to hold on for a minute. She ran a super race and fought back gamely in the stretch."

KELLY'S LANDING QUOTES

Corey Lanerie, jockey of LINE JUDGE (winner): "My job today was easy. The instructions were just to sit behind the speed and make a run. We broke a little bad and I got a little worried at first but when I got him settled down, he just took off. He was very impressive today and ready to roll."

Felipe Nickel, assistant trainer of LINE JUDGE (winner): "He's been doing very well since we claimed him. It was a very good race for him to step up in competition."

Greg Foley, trainer of TRANSATLANTIC KISS (runner-up) and CONTROL STAKE (seventh): "(Transatlantic Kiss) ran a really good race. He sat in a good spot around the turn and the winner was just the best in today's race. We have a really nice horse."

-END-